

"SALAM, I COME IN PEACE"

MUSLIMS STAND UP AGAINST ISLAMOPHOBIA

By **MARISA WARMAN HIRSCHFIELD**, age 11



Young people in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn, work with the Arab American Association of New York to advocate for their communities.

On January 8, 2016, a 56-year-old Muslim woman named Rose Hamid attended a Donald Trump rally in South Carolina to protest what she saw as his anti-Muslim views. During the rally, she silently stood up wearing a shirt that said, “**Salam**, I come in peace.” Soon, Trump supporters started loudly chanting his name and pointing at her, and security appeared to escort her out. After the rally, she told news sources that some people around her asked if she was carrying a bomb.

“This demonstrates how when you start **dehumanizing** the other, it can turn people into very hateful, ugly people,” Hamid told CNN. “It needs to be known.”

Islamophobia is a mindset of fear and hatred toward Muslims. Islamophobic thinking casts Muslims as terrorists and often misinterprets Islam, the religion of Muslims. Even a name that might sound **Arabic** is at times enough information for many Americans to feel justified to profile Muslims. For example, when Public Policy Polling asked 530 Republicans if they would bomb Agrabah, the fake city from the movie *Aladdin*, 30 percent said they would and only 13 percent opposed it.

Because of these biases, 51 percent of Americans are against allowing refugees from war-torn Syria into the United States, since they may be Muslim. Presidential hopeful Ted Cruz even suggested only letting in Christian Syrian refugees.

Even people who are not Muslim but are assumed to be Muslim have experienced discrimination and even violence because of Islamophobia. And, Islamophobia is not limited to the United States. Waris Ahluwalia, a **Sikh** American actor and designer, was detained when boarding a plane from Mexico City back to the United States after refusing to remove his turban.

Attacks against Muslims in the United States—including threats to **mosques** and **hijab**-wearing students—have tripled since the November 2015 Paris attacks.

A form of racism, Islamophobia can impact the emotional and physiological health of Muslims. According to the Runnymede Trust, a think tank about racial equality, the constant worry of being targeted can lead to depression, anxiety and even heart disease.

“Whenever politicians say really horrible things about Muslims in the media, the next day I feel really self-

conscious going out into the street,” Aber Kawas, a 23-year-old Muslim activist from Brooklyn, New York, told *IndyKids*. “So, I’m really careful about who I’m walking with and how I look. Inside, it causes a lot of anxiousness and nervousness.”

Kawas works at the Arab American Association of New York helping refugees and immigrants, 90 percent of whom are Muslim. She says Muslim activism is relatively new in Brooklyn, but it is growing. Kawas hopes that by working with younger kids, she can make the future brighter for Muslims in the United States.

“I do workshops where I go to middle schools and high schools to talk about Islamophobia and racism,” she said. “When I do something like that, my hope is that the 30 kids in the room who did that workshop will go out into the world and not do those things to other people.”

Salam: “Hello” in Arabic.

Dehumanizing: The act of taking away the positive human qualities of an individual or group.

Arabic: The language of the Qur’an, the Muslim holy book. It is one of the most widely spoken languages in the world.

Sikh: Sikhism is a 500-year-old religion with more than 20 million followers worldwide. A Sikh is a person who practices Sikhism.

Mosque: Spaces where Muslims worship.

Hijab: A veil or scarf worn by Muslim women.



Aeromexico has apologized to Waris Ahluwalia, a Sikh American actor, for wrongfully detaining him when boarding a plane from Mexico City back to the United States.



Aber Kawas, 23-year old Youth Lead Organizer with the Arab American Association of New York, leads workshops with middle schools and high schools to talk about Islamophobia and racism.



Meet... Paul from Germany

Name: Paul Niklas Schulz

Age: 11

Lives in: Nierstein-Oppenheim am Rhein, Germany

Languages Spoken: German (with my mom and dad), Polish (with my mom), Latin (at school), English (at school)

Favorite Food: Pizza

Hobbies: Soccer

Place you would most love to visit: Canada

Favorite Animal: Dog

Favorite School Subject: Sports

Germany at a Glance



Official Country Name: Deutschland (in German), Germany (in English)

Population: More than 80 million

Official Languages: Deutsch (German)

Capital: Berlin

Fun Facts:

- The castle you see in Disney movies is based on a castle called Schloss Neuschwanstein located in Schwangau Bavaria.
- In Germany there are over 5,000 brands of beer, 12,000 types of sausage and 600 types of bread.
- German almost became the national language of the United States.
- Some of the most well known children's stories, such as Cinderella, Snow White and Little Red Riding Hood, were originally written by the German brothers Grimm.

By ANALOUIZA FARK-HONDEH, age 10



12,000

The lead-contaminated water in Flint could have poisoned up to 12,000 children. Source: The United Way

nation&world

Poisoned Water in Flint, MI



ANONYMOUS LEGION-YOUTUBE

In a public video letter on January 2, 2016, an internet activism group called Anonymous held Michigan's governor Rick Snyder accountable for poisoning the residents of Flint, MI.

By LILY KUZMINSKI, age 11



Since April 14, 2014, Flint, MI, a low-income city of around 100,000 people, has faced lead contamination in the city's water.

Darnell Earley, an unelected emergency manager, switched the city's water source from the Detroit water system to the known polluted Flint River in order to save the city \$5 million. Pollution in the water caused lead from rusty pipes to leach

into Flint's water supply, causing extremely high levels of lead.

The poisoned water has caused symptoms that include skin problems, permanent brain damage and developmental delays in children, headaches, depression and anxiety. According to United Way, one charity raising money to

support residents of Flint, the water could have poisoned up to 12,000 children. Additionally, the water caused an outbreak of a bacterial disease called Legionnaires' which has killed 10 people, according to the *Washington Post*. Even after switching the source back to the Detroit water supply in October, 2015, lead is still a problem due to pipes damaged by the toxic water. Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha, a

Flint pediatrician who noticed high lead levels in her young patients, described the difficulty in alerting the authorities to the problem in an interview with *Democracy Now!*: "And after about a week and a half or two weeks, [...] they finally said that the state's findings were consistent with my findings." The governor of Michigan, Rick Snyder, apologized and declared a state emergency on January 14.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency is providing bottled water and filters to Flint residents. But as presidential candidate Bernie Sanders stated, "Because of the conduct by Governor Snyder's administration and his refusal to take responsibility, families will suffer from lead poisoning for the rest of their lives. Children in Flint will be plagued with brain damage and other health problems. The people of Flint deserve more than an apology."

Immigrant Families Face Devastating Raids

By EMILY BOYER, age 12



More than 121 undocumented immigrants, mainly women and children, were arrested in raids coordinated by the Obama administration in January 2016.

These families are now enduring a long waiting period in prison-like detention centers before they are deported. "I think the problem with this is, is that many of the women are either unrepresented or they have substandard immigration lawyers," Barbara Hines, a Texas immigration lawyer working for immigrant and refugee rights, told *Democracy Now!*

Returning to their home countries is a scary prospect for these families. For many, it was the fear of violence that drove them to leave their homes and come to the United States.

The raids on Central American families have been conducted in southern states (Texas, Georgia and

North Carolina) and have been moving up the East Coast. These raids have been led by the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). ICE is organizing raids on families that have no legal authorization in order to set an example for other immigrants moving to the United States.

Many immigrants stay inside their homes because of the threat of ICE. "We feel like we're prisoners and that we're not free to do what we want," said Guadalupe, an immigrant and restaurant worker.

Although ICE is persecuting Central American immigrants, many are working to help their situation. Claudia Palacios, a former



Protests spread across the nation in response to ICE's raids on undocumented immigrants in January.

U.S. Marine born in Texas whose citizenship is now being questioned, blocked traffic in NYC to bring attention to the raids.

"I'm basically stateless, because the United States does not recognize my birth certificate," Palacio said.

Refugee: A person who has had to leave their home because of war or other violence, environmental disasters or a bad economy that leaves them unable to get jobs or make enough money.

indykids!

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IndyKids is a free newspaper, website and teaching tool that aims to inform children on current news and world events from a progressive perspective and to inspire in children a passion for social justice and learning. IndyKids is funded through donations and grants.

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Just contact *IndyKids*! Adults and kids can write articles, take photos, contribute artwork and help distribute the paper.

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Where in the World?

All the places listed below are mentioned in this issue. Can you match them with their general location on the world map at right? Answers are at the bottom of this page.

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| a) Syria ____ | e) Flint, MI, USA ____ |
| b) Germany ____ | f) Paraguay ____ |
| c) Brooklyn, NY, USA ____ | g) Brazil ____ |
| d) Finland ____ | h) Uruguay ____ |
| | i) San Diego, CA, USA ____ |



Should Adults Get an Allowance, Too?

By CATE GARRETSON, age 10



Finland is planning an experiment in 2017 to help combat poverty in the country. The experiment will give a group of Finnish citizens a basic, universal income, almost like an allowance, to cover living costs. If the plan works, all adults in Finland could receive about 800 euros a month (around \$875).

Olli Kangas, the designer of the experiment, hopes the program will help unemployed Finns take part-time jobs, notes *Fast Company*.

Critics are afraid the plan could upset Finland's shaky economy. However, the plan is projected to be easier for all Finns to access than previous forms of benefits, welfare and social security. Because all adult citizens will receive the same amount, it is intended to help fight income inequality in Finland.

According to a poll done by Kela, a Finnish government agency, 69 percent of Finns support the basic income plan. Finnish citizen Paivi Antturi told *IndyKids* she thinks the plan could work, but she has some concerns. "[It could be] helpful for those who work as freelancers, but I'm not sure it would necessarily change the mindset of anyone who doesn't want to work." But the Finnish government believes the plan could give the unemployed the opportunity to go back to school or to



CHRISTOPHER ANDREWS-FLICKR

Finland could be among the first countries to pay a basic income to all adult citizens, an idea that is being considered by nations around the world.

take jobs that otherwise would not have paid enough.

During a similar experiment in Uganda in 2013, working hours went up by 17 percent, and earnings increased by 38 percent, according to *Quartz*. Y Combinator, a startup company in Silicon Valley, CA, is already making plans to fund a similar program in the United States.

Following Up on Justice While Black

By JAMES GELMAN, age 13



On July 10, 2015, Texas state trooper Brian Encinia pulled over Sandra Bland for failing to signal when changing lanes. Within minutes, Encinia asked her to step out of the car, bashed her head against the ground and arrested her. Three days later, she was discovered dead inside her cell. No authorities will be **indicted** for murder.

While mainstream awareness of police brutality toward black men, women and children has grown in the last few years due to citizen activism, not much has changed in terms of legal justice.

In November, Minneapolis police fatally shot 24-year-old Jamar Clark while he was already handcuffed and lying on the floor, according to witnesses. The two officers, Dustin Schwarze and Mark Ringgenberg, returned to police desk duty in January.

Meanwhile, a grand jury decided not to indict Cleveland officer Timothy Loehmann, who in November 2014 shot and killed Tamir Rice, the 12-year-old who was playing with a toy gun in a park. Instead, the city has billed Rice's family \$500 for his ambulance ride to the hospital.

And, Jason Van Dyke, the Chicago officer who shot 17-year-old Laquan McDonald 16 times in 13 seconds on October 20, 2014, is being tried on six counts of first-degree murder.



JAMELLE BOUIE-FLICKR

Citizen activists gather in Ferguson, MO to protest unpunished, fatal police violence against black lives. Aug. 14, 2014.

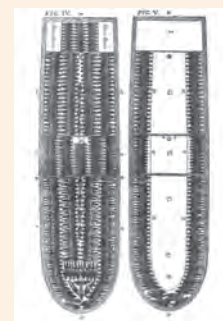
"Official discipline of bad cops is so rare as to be almost nonexistent, according to some recent studies," writes political columnist Rich Miller. "It's a problem that screams for a remedy from above." However, on January 6, Brian Encinia, the state trooper who arrested Sandra Bland, was charged with **perjury**. On March 2, Encinia was fired.

In February, Peter Liang, the cop who fatally shot unarmed 28-year-old father Akai Gurley in the stairwell of a Brooklyn housing project, was found guilty of manslaughter and official misconduct. Liang is the first officer to be convicted of a police-related killing in 10 years. "We're not rejoicing," Gurley's aunt Hertencia Petersen told the *Daily News*. "But it's about being accountable. It's about a girl who will never know her father."

Indict: To formally charge someone with a serious crime.

Perjury: Lying under oath in court.

newsbriefs



WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

United Nations Recommends Reparations

By SAMIA AFRIN, age 12



On January 29, 2016, members of the United Nations Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent released a report finding that the level of police brutality and poverty among blacks in the United States is as bad as it was in the Jim Crow era. The group said that Congress should establish a national human rights commission and publicly acknowledge that the Atlantic slave trade was a crime against humanity. They also recommend reparations be paid, which don't have to be cash. They can also take the form of social initiatives and stronger protections, similar to the ones granted to Japanese Americans who went to internment camps during World War II.



KATHRYN GERLITZ

Let Them Stay

By HOPE MENACHERY, age 9



On a sunny day, February 10, two brave protesters unfurled a large banner that read #LetThemStay. The protesters and their banner were suspended from the Yarra Bend bridge in Melbourne, Australia. An Australian high court had just decided that the government has a right to create detention centers for refugees in Nauru. Twenty-five-year-old Katherine Woskett and 22-year-old Hannah Patchett both had friends that came to Australia and couldn't imagine their children being deported. They felt this was the only way to inspire other people to uphold Australia's reputation as a humane country.



LEPER CUGUN-FLICKR

Drivers Protest Uber

By KAILA DUNN, age 12



In January and February, Uber and taxi drivers in Nairobi, London and NYC have protested wages. Uber, an app-based car service, lowered fares by 15 percent, causing drivers' earnings to go down. Uber argues that lower prices will attract more passengers. With no say in the price cut, Uber's drivers disagree since this means they would have to work longer hours to make the same earnings. Yellow-cab and private taxi drivers are also protesting, due to the competition of Uber's low fare. They feel that Uber is taking over the car service industry.

Weird and Wacky Weather

is El Niño to blame?

What is El Niño?

By SOFIA OLIVO, age 11



El Niño is a naturally occurring weather pattern that happens every two to seven years. It begins in December or January and can last up to 12 months, usually starting in the Pacific Ocean and then moving east across North and South America. At its strongest, El Niño goes farther east and impacts other parts of the world.

El Niño moves across the **equator**. The equator is hot because it is closest to the sun, which warms the waters in the central Pacific Ocean. These warm surface waters interact with cold surface waters to create high and low pressure in the air above the ocean, causing unusual changes in weather.

The second phase of the weather pattern, La Niña, goes west instead of going east and brings cooler ocean temperatures. Both can cause heavy rain, **tropical cyclones**, drought and warm and cold temperatures that stay in place for longer than normal.

The 1997-98 El Niño was the first full cycle that NASA observed, but El Niño has been around for at least 124,000 years.



El Niño causes rain following record droughts in California. Jan. 6, 2016.

Is El Niño Responsible for Record Temperatures, or is Climate Change to Blame?

By CANDACE RUSSELL, age 11



Climate change may be making the effects of El Niño more extreme.

A report published by *Science* says that El Niño has become more intense over the past century, suggesting that as global warming continues, El Niño may become increasingly volatile.

“Yes, the randomness of weather is playing a role here. But these events have been supercharged by an atmosphere made warmer and moister by human-caused climate change,” said Bob Henson, a meteorologist and climate blogger for Weather Underground.

According to the World Meteorological Organization, each month of 2015 saw record-breaking temperatures.

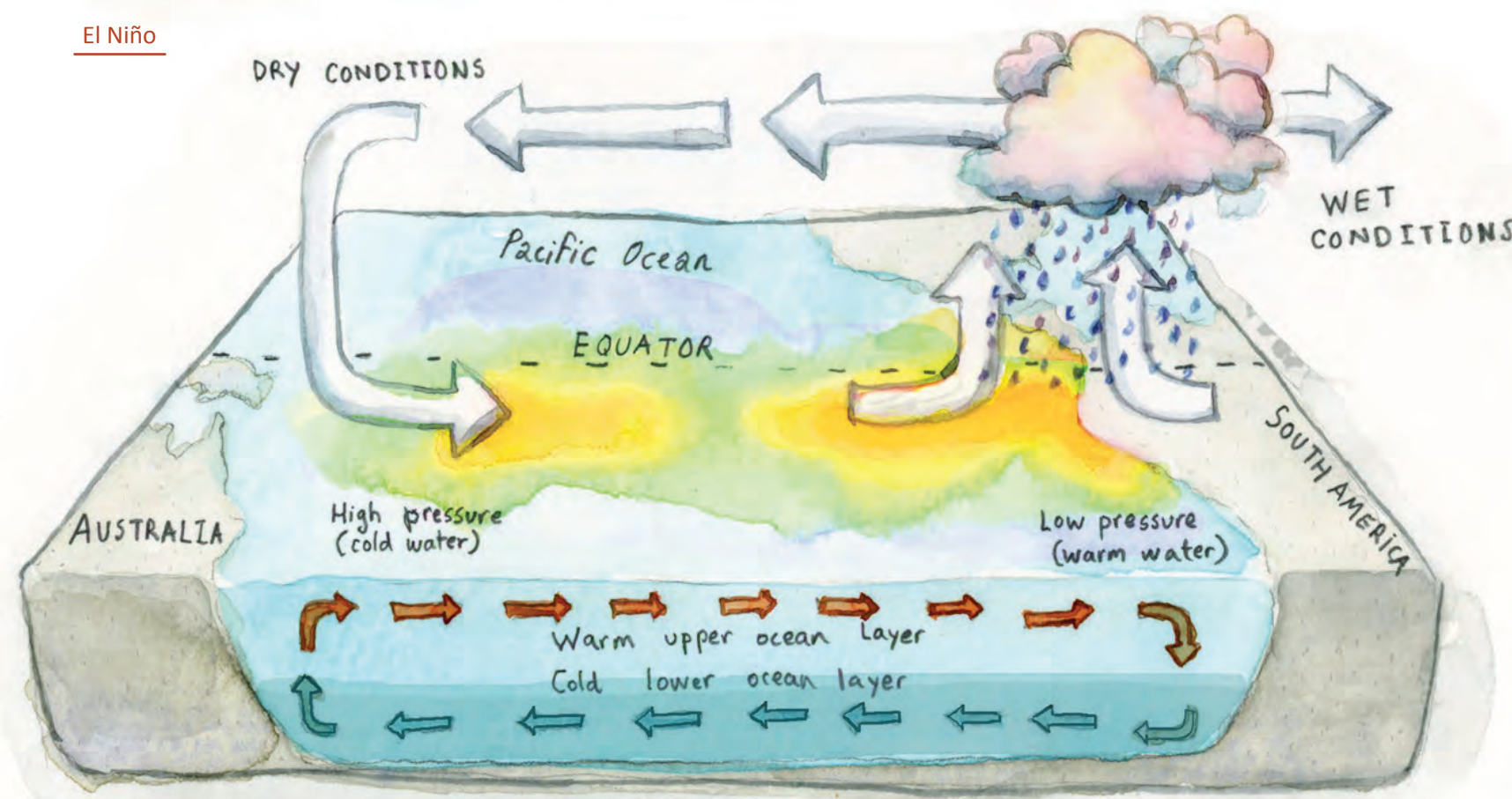
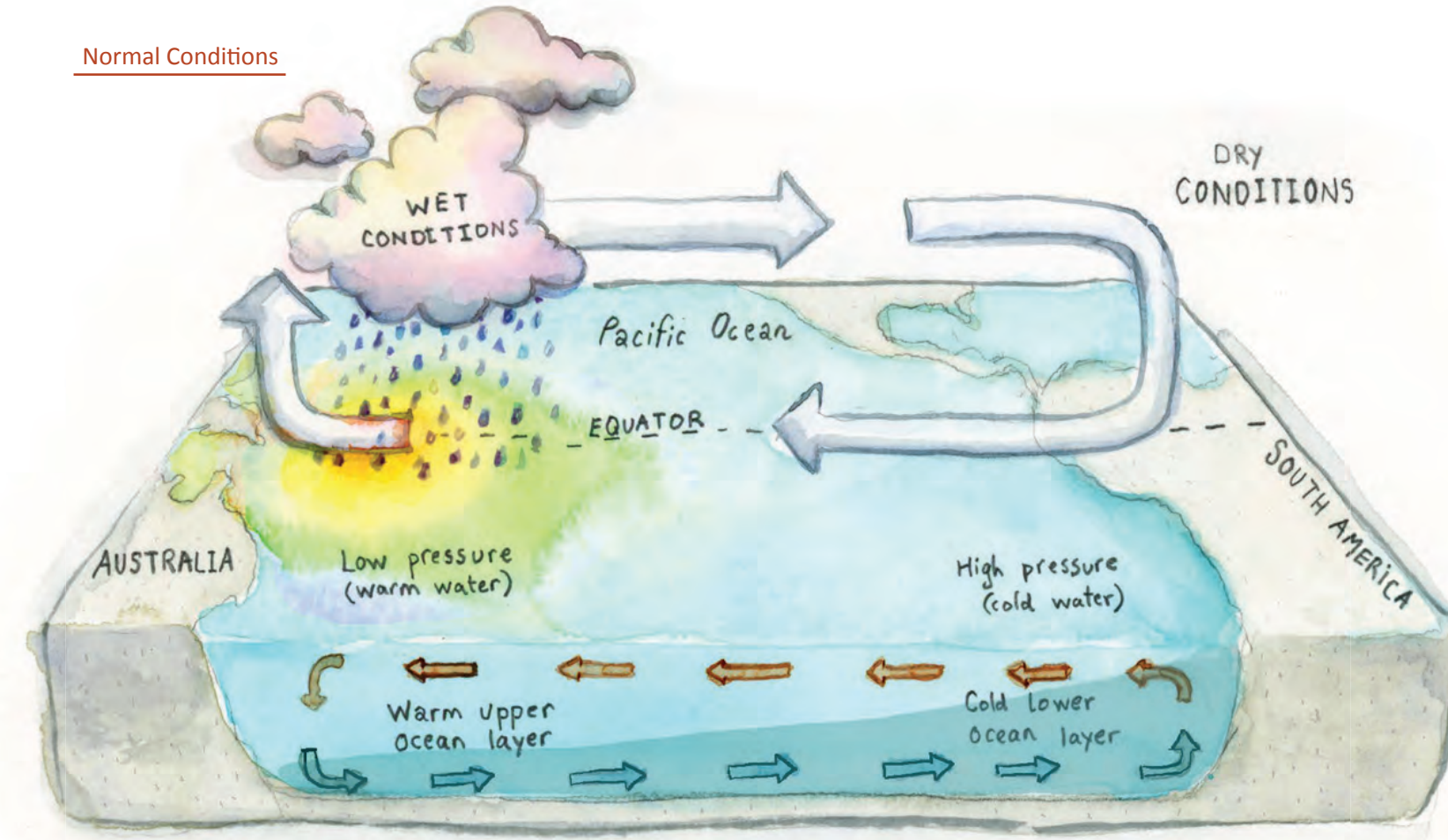
“Due to a warmer and moister atmosphere,” said assistant professor Baylor Fox-Kemper of the University of Colorado, “the impacts of El Niño are changing even though El Niño itself doesn’t change.”

Illustration by IVETTE SALOM • Introduction by KEREN ABRAMSON, age 10

On Christmas Eve, when East Coasters are usually bundled up having hot cocoa, New York City hit a record 72 degrees, even warmer than Southern California! Scientists think the reason for this unusual weather is El Niño, a weather pattern in the Pacific Ocean that has caused major problems in other parts of the world. But could El Niño alone be responsible for such record temperatures?



Scientific American says the 2015-2016 El Niño has been one of the three strongest in recorded history, with serious problems like famine, floods and sickness resulting from strange weather patterns, rain and temperature. But what is El Niño? How is it related to climate change?



Warm surface water in the Pacific Ocean changes the air pressure and leads to unusually wet and dry weather conditions across the globe, resulting in a weather pattern known as El Niño.

Glossary of Terms

Equator:

A latitudinal line that goes around the middle of the Earth.

Tropical cyclone:

What happens before a hurricane.



UNICEF ETHIOPIA

Twelve-year-old Sofia Mohammed on her way to get drinking water after walking 35 kilometers. Gewane Wereda, Ethiopia on Oct. 6, 2015.

Millions Around the World Suffer Due to El Niño

By GISELLE MARIN, age 13



El Niño deeply affects countries around the world, causing droughts and massive floods. In particular, countries and communities with high poverty in Asia, the Americas, the Caribbean and Africa which are close to the equator have suffered the most.

The current cycle of El Niño, which began in 2015, is causing floods that are forcing people out of their homes in Brazil and Uruguay. Paraguay is having its worst flood in 50 years. In other parts of the world, countries are having terrible droughts and people are in danger of starvation, malnutrition and dehydration due to the lack of food, water and medicine.

“Millions of people in places like Ethiopia, Haiti and Papua New Guinea are already feeling the effects of drought and crop failure. It’s already too late for some regions to avoid a major emergency,” Jane Cocking, Oxfam Great Britain’s humanitarian director, told the *Guardian*.

The United Nations is trying to get other countries and international communities to give more aid to suffering countries.

Stephen O'Brien, the U.N. undersecretary-general for the coordination of humanitarian affairs, said at a U.N. meeting, “If we act now, we will save lives and livelihoods and prevent an even more serious humanitarian emergency from taking hold.”



MARK ROBINSON-FLICKR

The Wood Wide Web

By KARL MARTINEZ, age 10



A German scientist named Peter Wohlleben discovered something special about a forest of beech trees. He realized that the branches never overlap so that they do not block the light from neighboring trees. In other words, it appears that trees look out for each other. The “wood wide web” is a way that plants communicate from miles away. Thread-like fungi connect the roots of trees so they can count, learn and warn each other of danger. If one tree starts to die, the other trees can even share their nutrients and give it the power to keep growing.



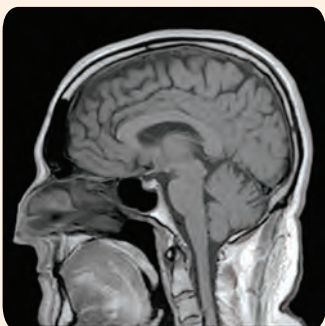
WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Poop Power!

By KAILA DUNN, age 12



Your waste comes to use! Many countries are starting an environmentally friendly way to create fuel to power our transportation with human waste. In Bristol, England, GENeco Bio-Bus powers buses using human waste. It all starts when people flush the toilet. Scientists use bacteria to break down the sludge, releasing methane that can be burned as a renewable source of energy. The energy can be used to power buses to travel up to 2.5 million miles a year. Inland Empire Utilities Agency, a wastewater treatment plant company in California, fuels its plant in a similar way. Biofuel cells use bacteria to break down human waste for energy. When heated, the cells reacts with oxygen, producing water, carbon dioxide and electricity.



REIGH LEBLANC-FLICKR

Cyberbrains

By SAUL KAHN, age 10



The Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), a part of the U.S. Department of Defense, has recently begun to develop a noninvasive way to implant computer chips into the brain, which would create a brain-computer interface. These chips would be inserted through a blood vessel in the neck and would expand once inside the appropriate part of the brain. This would make it less risky to insert the chip. This project, Neural Engineering System Design (NESD), is part of President Obama's BRAIN initiative, which began in 2013. DARPA's first step, they say, is to create this type of interface to help people with sight or hearing impairments.

culture&activism

Teen Siblings Create App for Social Justice

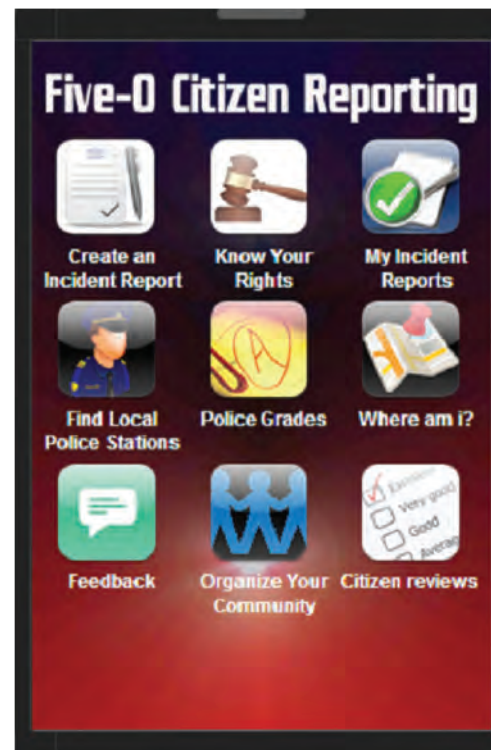
By AUDREN HEDGES DUROY, age 9



Police use of excessive and often fatal force has frequently been in the news over the past year. The Guardian's project The Counted is tracking the number of deaths at the hands of the police, but is anyone keeping track of times when citizens face police violence but people don't die? An app called “Five-O” was created in 2014 by three teenage siblings, Ima, Asha and Caleb Christian from Georgia. The siblings decided to create the app after two police officers entered their house with guns drawn and didn't lower them, even after it was apparent that a mistake had been made.

“Five-O” provides a space for citizens to rate and track their interactions with police officers, whether positive or negative. The app has a “Know Your Rights” section, which helps answer questions users have about their rights in police encounters, because, as 16-year-old Asha said, it is not until “you are face to face with an officer that you realize what the deal is.”

The long-term plan for “Five-O” is to include other countries outside of the United States, including Great Britain, Canada, Brazil and Russia. Asha said they hope the app will become a “global repository of unbiased police data” and will improve community relationships with police officers.



WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Invented by three teenagers from Georgia, the “Five-O” app provides a space for citizens to rate and track their interactions with police officers.

History Under The Bridge

By GIGI KRIEGSMANN, age 11



On April 22, 1970, Mario Solis found out that bulldozers were going to create a parking lot for a highway patrol station under the Coronado Bridge in San Diego. The bridge, with its on-ramps and concrete pillars, was built in 1963 and had already torn into their community. A student at San Diego City College, Solis informed his classmates and went door to door, passing out flyers to alert the community. At the end of the day, 200 to 300 people joined him in a protest to build a park instead, and were able to take over the land by forming a human chain. Chicano student organizations from Santa Barbara and Los Angeles came to offer their support.

On May 1, 1970, the assistant city manager of San Diego, Meno Wilhelms, stated that the land needed to be cleared of demonstrators to reach an agreement. For the next few months, negotiations went on between Wilhelms, the city and the state. On May 23, the bill was signed by then-Governor Ronald Reagan to develop a park.

After getting the rights to paint on structures of the bridge, artists began to create murals. The Colossus, one of the most popular murals, supports the exit ramp from the Coronado Bay Bridge onto Interstate 5 South.

Every year, Chicano Park Day is celebrated on April 23. This year's theme is “Empowering Our Youth, Ensuring Our Traditions Live On.” The students at San Diego City College were young when they protested and founded Chicano Park. This is inspiring for the next generation of visitors to Chicano Park.



KELLINAHANDBASKET-FLICKR

Located underneath the Coronado Bridge in San Diego, Chicano Park is filled with vibrant murals and a rich history.



NATHAN GIBBS-FLICKR

The Colossus, one of the most popular murals in the park, supports the exit ramp from the Coronado Bay Bridge onto Interstate 5 South.

Meet IndyKids Kid Reporter, Sophia Rothman



SOPHIA ROTHMAN

By JUSTIN LAMPORT, age 12



Justin Lamport: What inspired you to become a writer?

Sophia Rothman: I have always loved to read. However it is one thing to enjoy something that someone else wrote, and another to feel the satisfaction of knowing that you provided joy for another person. I became a writer because I wanted to spread that feeling of joy (as well as information) to people who read my work.

What is your style? Are you an informative, persuasive or entertaining writer?

I am an informative writer. I think it is important that people know what's going on in the world, and I try to help by being informative through my writing.

Who are your favorite authors?

Two authors I like are Suzanne Collins and Rick Riordan. However, my favorite author has to be J.K. Row-

ing. I absolutely love the *Harry Potter* series and I have read and enjoyed some of her other books as well.

What are your favorite hobbies?

Some of my favorite hobbies include reading, singing, acting, and playing sports (soccer and tennis).

If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you go and why?

If I could go anywhere in the world I would go to Brazil. I have learned about Rio and I wish that I could go to Carnival. I love soccer and definitely would enjoy both playing and watching it in Brazil. Also, I am learning Spanish at school, so (even though Brazil's main language is Portuguese) I would be able to get around with two of the languages that are used there.

Someday, you could be a Community Organizer, like Aber Kawas

By MARISA WARMAN HIRSCHFIELD, age 11



Have you noticed issues of religion, gender and race impacting your community, your family or yourself? Growing up in Brooklyn, Muslim American activist Aber Kawas witnessed discrimination and violence against Muslims in her community. At 23-years-old, Kawas fights social injustices as a lead youth organizer at the Arab American Association of New York.

Marisa Warman Hirschfield: Tell me a little about yourself.

Aber Kawas: I work at the Arab American Association, a small community organization that works on issues related to the Arab community. We work a lot with issues regarding the Muslim community because about 90 percent of the people that we serve are Muslims. We help refugees and immigrants who come into NYC and people who deal with racism because of their identity.

How did you get involved in activism?

I think that my identity growing up was a big part of it. My parents were immigrants. After September 11, I was in fourth grade, and in

school, being Muslim, I faced a lot of discrimination. I saw a lot of people in my community face discrimination. My father was deported because at the time a lot of Muslim men were being deported. That time period sort of drove me into being an activist.

How do you feel Islamophobia in America impacts your daily life?

I've heard lots of stories where people have been harassed in the street, people cursing at them or pushing them, shoving them, spitting at them. I faced a lot of discrimination growing up where people didn't want to talk to me, or they thought that I was weird or different. It's hard to get a job sometimes because you look a certain way. I wear a hijab, which is the head scarf, so I feel like sometimes I have to work twice as hard to prove myself because people hold all of these assumptions about me.

Do you feel optimistic or pessimistic about how Muslims will be treated in America in the future?

I feel optimistic. I really hope that in the future things can stop happening to Muslim Americans but also Muslims around the world. The key is to imagine what the world looks like without



ARAB AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK

the problems that you're fighting—what the United States, what NYC, what Brooklyn looks like without racism. What does the world look like when people are not poor? What do the streets look like when everyone is equal?

Racism in Photography

By MARIANNE NACANAYNAY, age 13



For decades since the mid-1950s, Kodak used reference cards for fine-tuning shadows, skin tone and light in photography. Known as "Shirley" cards, they featured a white, brunette Kodak employee. Photographers found that when people of color were photographed, their features would blend into the background since they didn't share Shirley's coloring. Only when Kodak's clients complained that chocolate and wood furniture products were not coming out well did Kodak modify their reference card standards.

Early color cinematography and photography developed during segregation and the Jim Crow-era, a time of violent racism for African Americans.

Decades later, artists Adam Broomberg and Oliver Chanarin took photos in South Africa using Polaroid's

vintage camera model ID-2. They studied "the radical notion [that] prejudice might be inherent in... photography itself." Noting that darker skin absorbs 42 percent more light than lighter skin, the ID-2's boost button appeared to boost the amount of light focused on a subject by 42 percent, better capturing the brown skin of the people being photographed.

Today, Jeana Lindo, photographer and author of the photo book *Elegant Black Ladies*, notes that when editing photos, she brings out shadows to show hair texture. She color balances photos to "reflect the golden skin tone of my people."

Lindo adds a piece of advice for aspiring photographers and those eager to better represent people of color: "You, the camera and pictures are just a medium [...] to speak through. Let the work be about the people."



STEVEN DEPOLO-FLICKR

Artists Adam Broomberg and Oliver Chanarin studied "the radical notion [that] prejudice might be inherent in photography itself."



STOP CLIMATE CHANGE NOW!!!

By ARTCHAN NADURA NABARTEY, age 9



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GETTING WILD WITH THE GOLDEN EAGLE



By ELLERY SNYDERMAN, age 10

The golden eagle is a highly-protected wild bird and a cousin of the U.S. national animal, the bald eagle. It lives in the temperate climate of western North America, including Mexico, Alaska and western Canada.

Golden eagles were heavily hunted until the 1960s by ranchers who thought the eagles were killing their livestock. The ranchers thought that the eagles were big, scary animals, and they killed about 20,000 of them. In 1962, golden eagles were added to the Bald Eagle Protection Act, which became the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act.

Today, the golden eagle is still one of the United States' most protected animals.

Did you know?

- The golden eagle has many gold-colored feathers. That is how it got its name.
- The golden eagle mainly eats small animals such as rabbits and ground squirrels.
- The golden eagle weighs approximately nine pounds, but can weigh up to 14 pounds!
- The golden eagle's wingspan is really long! It is the fifth-longest in the eagle species, and can range from 5-foot-11 to 7-foot-8.



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WHO AM I?

By ELLERY SNYDERMAN, age 10



1. I was born in Rasht, Iran, in 1969 and grew up in Tehran.

2. I lived in Austria as a teenager. While I was there, I went to high school. After high school I was homeless for a short while.

3. I earned a master's degree in visual communication at Islamic Azad University in Tehran in 1994.

4. I married at age 21, divorced after three years and moved to Strasbourg, France. Later, I moved to Paris and married a Swedish national, Mattias Ripa.

5. I published *Persepolis*, a graphic novel about my life, in 2000. It won many French awards and was ranked number five on *Newsweek's* list of the 10 best nonfiction books of the decade. In 2004, I published *Persepolis 2*.

6. I co-wrote and co-directed the movie version of *Persepolis*, which was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Animated Film in 2007.

7. I've written 11 books, including *Persepolis*, *Embroideries*, *Monsters Are Afraid of the Moon* and *Chicken with Plums*.

8. I speak Persian, French, English, Swedish, German and Italian.



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ANSWER: Marjane Satrapi